

# ≡ Baltimore City Mayoral Fellowship Newsletter

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Issue 3

## Game Day at Camden Yards



It's always fun battling another team in your division, and Friday, July 12<sup>th</sup> was no exception as the Baltimore Orioles took on the Toronto Blue Jays. An early evening rain shower didn't dampen the Mayoral Fellows spirits as they gathered in the Mayor's Box at beautiful Oriole Park at Camden Yards to enjoy the game.

"The atmosphere at the ball park was amazing. Thousands of fans rooting for the home team brought everyone together to cheer on the Orioles. It was great for us to experience a quintessential Baltimore tradition," said Fellow Sharity Bannerman. To make the experience even better, Fellows brought their siblings or significant others to the game with them. For most, it was their first time at Camden Yards. Not only did they have fun spending time with each other, but they also enjoyed traditional ball park favorites like hot dogs, hamburgers, cracker jack, and drinks.

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After the Orioles pulled out another victory against the Blue Jays, fans were treated to a beautiful fireworks display. "Watching the light show from picturesque Camden Yards was fantastic", said Bannerman. "The city shined under the mostly purple and orange light display. It was a great way for the Orioles to celebrate the pride Baltimoreans take in their sports teams."



## Mayoral Fellow Profiles



**LaVita Tuff**

"When I joined the Atlanta Urban Debate League while in middle school, I knew I wanted to be an attorney", said LaVita Tuff. Loving the charm and traditions of the south, the Atlanta native attended Tennessee State University and received her bachelor's degree in English. She then returned to school at the University of New Orleans to earn a master's degree in Urban Regional Planning with a specialization in housing, community and economic development. Currently a student at the University of Baltimore School of Law, she plans to graduate in May 2014 and use her law degree to speak for voiceless and underserved citizens in the community.

After a close friend told Tuff about the Mayoral Fellows Program, she knew it was a perfect opportunity for her to learn, up close and personal, about city government. For the summer, she is working in the Baltimore Development Cooperation agency. Her responsibilities include helping create a public participation framework. "Having worked for federal and state government, I hope this experience helps me learn landscape of city govern-

ment" Tuff said.

"My favorite experience as a Mayoral Fellow thus far was meeting with Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake" said Tuff. "I always wanted to ask her a question outside of politics. With such a demanding career ahead of me, I wanted to know how she balances being a wife, mother, and being a successful attorney. The Mayor was very honest with me and gave me her real-life feedback that I will keep with me for the rest of my career."

After finishing the Mayoral Fellowship summer program, Tuff wants to continue to work for City government after graduating from law school. She wants to use her degree outside of the courtroom serving local citizens.

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Growing-up in a family committed to public service, Daniel was taught that there are a lot of people working hard for what he has and that he shouldn't take life for granted. Those lessons now inspire him to want to give back to others.

Originally from Bel Gardens, California, right outside of east Los Angeles, Daniel was recruited to play football at John Hopkins University and fell in love with the city of Baltimore. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in International Studies and a minor in Latin American Studies.

Daniel interned for the Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice working on the City's flash mob and social media strategies. He also interned with the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund working on redistricting. For the last four years, Daniel has volunteered at the Pen Lucy tutoring Program for four years and has been involved in Baltimore inner city outings.

"Not only is working for the Fire Department a great experience, but I really enjoyed the police ride along during a Friday night. I received a clear understanding of the tremendous amount of work that our officers put in to help save the lives of every day Baltimoreans," said Daniel.

After the Fellowship program Daniel would like to pursue a master's in Public Policy and expand his horizons by working at the federal policy level.



**Daniel Ramos**

## Mayoral Fellow Profiles Continued

Michelle Rau is a native from Woodland Hills, a district in the city of Los Angeles, California. Although she loves her home town, she enjoys getting away from the Los Angeles scenery and traveling to different cities. Michelle is thankful for growing up in Los Angeles because the numerous ethnic groups in the city helped to give her a broad perspective of urban issues.

Michelle left her home town to attend the University of Oregon where she earned two bachelor's degrees: a Bachelor's of Science in Environmental Studies and a Bachelor's of Arts in Planning Public Policies and Management.

After graduating, Michelle worked for the City of Eugene, Oregon in their Planning Department. While there, she worked on Industrial Zoning, Downtown Redevelopment, and Brownfield Mitigation. Wanting more exposure to city government, Michelle worked for the Lane Council of Government in Eugene, Oregon where she was responsible for working on GIS mapping and regional bicycle transportation data.

Michelle's selection to work in the Baltimore Mayoral Program this summer will provide her with even more experience working with city government. She is currently working in the Planning Department's Commission for Historical and Artificial Preservation (CHAP). Her project goal is to identify which of the city owned buildings are eligible for CHAP review and which ones are historical and architecturally significant. Her assignment is to simplify the projects that CHAP wants to review for preservation.

"Working as a Mayoral Fellow in Baltimore City is a great opportunity. My favorite experience so far is being exposed to such high level decision makers in various departments of the government."

After completing the Mayoral Fellowship Program, Michelle wants to continue working for the City of Baltimore.



**Michelle Rau**

Hailing from the small town of Boonsboro, Maryland, Paul Ryberg looked forward to the day when he could move to an urban city. Applying to Johns Hopkins University (JHU) in Baltimore was his first step towards his destination. After graduating in 2012 with dual bachelor's degrees in Environmental Science and Spanish, he returned to JHU to earn his master's degree in Environmental Science and Policy.

While interning with CitiStat, Paul learned about the Mayoral Fellowship Program. Working in the Department of General Services in the Minor Privilege Office, he is making recommendations for improving enforcement, communication, and changes to the fees structure. While there, he hopes to learn how to navigate the city's bureaucracy.



**Paul Ryberg**

"The Fellowship has been very interesting; I've really enjoyed meeting with the different stakeholders in the government. They give straight forward advice about what they think about the process and expressing their frustration when appropriate," said Ryberg.

After completing the Fellowship, he would like to continue to work for the federal government in Washington, D.C., specifically in the environmental sector.

# *Alumni Spotlight— Dr. John Bullock*

*Assistant Professor, Political Science, Towson University  
Executive Director, Downtown Baltimore Family Alliance*



## **Academic Background**

**Bachelor's Degree**  
Hampton University  
Political Science

**Master's Degree**  
University of North Carolina  
City Planning

**Ph.D.**  
University of Maryland  
Government and Politics

## **Where are you from?**

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

## **Year of Fellowship?**

Summer 2008

## **Agency you worked for?**

Department of Housing and Community Development, Office of the Commissioner

## **Memorable Part of the Fellowship?**

The speaker series exposed us to different aspects of public service in Baltimore.

## **How did the Fellowship affect your career path?**

I have continued to interact with a number of the people that I met during the program, including other Fellows and government officials.

## **Recommendations for future fellows?**

Ask as many questions as you can and try to maintain connections with the people you meet.





# Agency Profile: CitiStat

In 1999 Baltimore City instituted a new style of management called CitiStat in order to make City government responsive, accountable and cost effective. Former Governor O'Malley established Baltimore CitiStat only months after taking office.

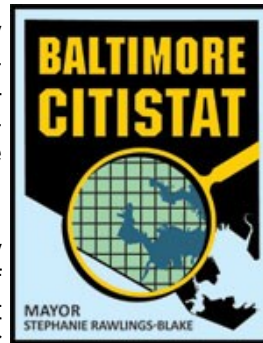
CitiStat was designed to maximize personal accountability by requiring City agencies to provide CitiStat analysts with metrics representing performance. During monthly and bi-monthly meetings with the Office of the Mayor, each organization must observe sub-standard performance and propose solutions that can be carried out in an efficient manner.

Today, the high level of performance and responsibility achieved by utilizing the CitiStat method has become part of the regular course of business in the City. City government has adopted the CitiStat model and extended it to cover broad multi-agency tasks such as keeping Baltimore sanitary and putting gun offenders behind bars.

In a growing agency you need team members to get the job done. With Director Chad Kenney and Analysts Jane Lewis, Jerrie Kumalah, Sean Norris, Mark Conway, and Cristie Cole, this team combines manual information networks, precision, and logical skills to embody CitiStat's objectives.

#### The CitiStat Office follows four main tenets:

1. Accurate and timely intelligence shared by all
2. Rapid deployment of resources
3. Effective tactics and strategies
4. Relentless follow-up and assessment



"At CitiStat we are focused on helping agencies drive improvements to their operations through a rigorous process that involves performance measurement, analysis, and regular meetings in the CitiStat room.

The CitiStat Team relentlessly pursues progress by working closely with agency personnel to evaluate business processes through the lens of data. We are currently very focused on the Mayor's goal of improving customer service by using feedback surveys we receive from citizens on the quality of 311 service requests completed by the agencies. Meetings are Wednesday and Friday mornings and Mayoral Fellows are welcome to attend."

*Director Chad Kenney*

For more information please visit:

[Baltimore CitiStat](http://www.baltimorecity.gov)

## Upcoming Events

### 2nd Annual National Night Out

*Mondawmin Mall in Target Parking Lot*  
August 6th  
4:00 PM to 8:00 PM

### Baltimore Housing Summer Food Outdoor Site

*Food Depot, 2401 Belair Road*  
Through August 16th  
12:00 PM to 2:00 PM

### Summer Thursdays at the Can Company

*The Can Company, 2400 Boston Street*  
Thursdays through August 29th  
6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

### Waterfront Wellness

*Inner Harbor, West Shore Park*  
Saturdays and Sundays through September 29th  
8:30 AM to 10:30 AM

I would like to say thank you to the City of Baltimore, Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, and most importantly Affan Sheikh for giving me the opportunity to work as an intern in the Mayor's Office this summer. As I begin my senior year at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, I will take the skills I learned at City Hall with me as I complete my bachelor's degree and begin my career. Not everyone gets this amazing opportunity and I would like to say thank you again. Although the summer is coming to an end, the opportunity to learn new things and meet wonderful people will last a lifetime.  
Asha A. Blaney

For more information, please visit  
<http://www.baltimorecity.gov/>

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